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Senate

The Senate met at 1:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father, thank You for Your patience. You listen to our prayers even when we make selfish requests, and You guide our steps in spite of our attempts to shape our own destiny.

Today, lead our lawmakers to the successful fulfillment of Your purposes. As they strive to honor You, strengthen them with an endurance that will keep them strong in the face of complex challenges. Lord, make them grateful that You have given them the honor of serving You and country, as You remind them of the importance of being faithful in small things. Lord, as You bless them with Your peace, unite them in their efforts to keep America strong. May they so reflect Your image that they will possess gentleness, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Lord, we end this prayer by asking You to remember the family of former U.S. Senator Thomas Eagleton and the many others who mourn his death.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 5, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARDIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this afternoon the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 3 p.m. During this time, Senators are permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. It is my understanding there are a number of Members on both sides who will be here to take up that time.

At 3 p.m., the Senate will resume consideration of the 9/11 legislation, S. 4. We have been told a number of Members want to offer amendments. I hope that is the case. So I look forward to them coming to the Senate Chamber today to offer those amendments.

Last week, the Republican leader's staff and my staff, along with the relevant committee staff, were negotiating a time when the Senate would vote on the collective bargaining amendment. I understand that has been offered by Senator DEMINT. The proposal is for the amendment to be voted on at 2:30 on Tuesday. We hope that can be accomplished sometime early this afternoon as to whether we will be able to lock in this agreement. I will be in a position at that time to

announce our vote schedule, which is at 5:30 today. However, Members are alerted that a vote or votes could occur at 5:30 today. I will provide more information as the day proceeds.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, let me respond to my good friend, the majority leader. We hope to be able to enter into an agreement to figure out how to dispose of the McCaskill and DeMint amendments on collective bargaining for TSA. There are also two district judges on the calendar who are noncontroversial whom we have no problem voting on this afternoon: Jarvey of Iowa and Lioi of Ohio. So in any event, we hope to be able to work all this out in the next few hours.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER SENATOR TOM EAGLETON

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I received a call yesterday that Tom Eagleton died. Tom Eagleton was a wonderful man. He served in the Senate representing the State of Missouri from 1968 to 1987.

I got to know Senator Eagleton. I met him when I was in the House of Representatives. He had previously, prior to coming to the Senate, been elected Missouri's attorney general and Lieutenant Governor.

One thing I wish to mention very briefly today: He was selected by Senator McGovern to be his Vice President. As some will recall, that lasted only 2 or 3 weeks because it came out he had received some attention for a

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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